

Application No.: 10/785,501
Filed: February 24, 2004
TC Art Unit: 2194
Confirmation No.: 9869

REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated September 10, 2007. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The status of the application is as follows.

Prior to entry of the present amendment, claims 1-64 were pending.

Claims 1-11, 13-30, 32-43, 45-62, and 64 stand rejected.

Claims 12, 31, 44, and 63 stand objected to.

Claims 1, 19, 22, 26, and 32-33 have been amended.

Claims 12-18, 31, and 44-64 have been canceled without prejudice.

More specifically, the Examiner, *inter alia*, has indicated that claims 12 and 44, though objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of dependent claim 12, and have amended independent claim 33 to include the limitations of dependent claim 44. Additionally, claims 19, 22, 26, and 32 have been amended to provide proper claim references upon cancellation of the intervening claims. Finally, claims 12-

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18, 31, and 44-64 have been canceled without prejudice or dedication, and the Applicants reserve the right to pursue protection of such subject matter through a continuing application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application and all present claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and the allowance of the application is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned Attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure

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